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Richard Krukar

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants

: Reiner Eschbach and William A. Fuss

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STATISTICS

Attorney Docket #: D/A2327

Amendment Responsive to the Non Final Office Action

Mail Stop RCE **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to a Non Final Office Action mailed on 10/3/2006, and having a shortened statutory response period that extends through 1/3/2007, please amend the claims as hereinafter indicated and reconsider their patentability in view of the following remarks.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

The remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.